

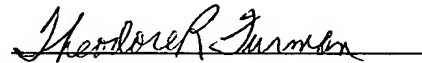
Remarks

Claims 1-22 are in the application. Claims 3 to 10, 12, and 14 to 19 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies and to correspond more closely to US practice. It should be noted that the claims in the WO 97/30601 publication (PCT/EP97/00646) were amended under Article 19 and it is those claims which are amended further herein to remove the multiple dependencies, etc. and not those of the published PCT application.

An Abstract also accompany this amendment.

Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of this case, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at the number below. If any additional fees or charges are required by this paper the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit account 19-2570 accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



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Abstract

Acidic oral compositions having reduced tooth erosion characteristics, especially acid beverages such as fruit juice drink concentrates, or oral healthcare products such as mouthwashes, are prepared by adding a calcium compound to the acid composition so that the mol ratio of calcium to acid ranges from 0.3 to 0.8, and the pH of the composition, if necessary after adjustment with an alkali, is from 3.5 to 4.5.